General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 101

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/55/L.82)*]

55/245. Preparations for the substantive preparatory process and the International Conference on Financing for Development

B*

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/196 of 22 December 1999, 55/186 and 55/213 of 20 December 2000 and 55/245 A of 21 March 2001, and decision 1/1 of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Financing for Development,[1]

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee[2] as well as all other inputs[3] submitted to date for the consideration of the Preparatory Committee at its third session,

Welcoming the progress made in consultations with the major institutional stakeholders, in particular the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization, with regard to their involvement in the process of financing for development,

Encouraging Governments and all other relevant stakeholders to continue considering concrete initiatives in support of the financing for development preparatory process and the International Conference on Financing for Development, within the framework of the substantive agenda,

Further encouraging the deepening of the efforts of all relevant stakeholders, including at the regional level, as well as by civil society and the business sector, in support of the financing for development preparatory process and the Conference, within the framework of the substantive agenda,

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* Consequently, resolution 55/245 of 21 March 2001 becomes resolution 55/245 A.

[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 28* (A/55/28), part two, chap. VI, sect. B.

[2] A/AC.257/22 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[3] A/AC.257/23 and Add.1 and A/AC.257/24.

Recalling the holistic nature of the financing for development preparatory process and the need to take into account other ongoing processes of relevance to the substantive agenda for the financing for development process,

Reiterating its appreciation to Governments for the support provided to the Trust Fund for extrabudgetary contributions to the financing for development process,

1. *Stresses* the importance of a successful outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development, as reflected by the heads of State and Government in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[4] and expresses appreciation to those heads of State and Government who responded to the letter addressed to them by the Secretary-General in compliance with resolution 55/213;

2. *Also stresses* the importance of effective preparations for the Conference, and welcomes the preparatory activities carried out so far, including the substantive interactive dialogue and contribution of all stakeholders during the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference;

3. *Expresses its gratitude* to the host country, Mexico, for its announcement regarding the venue and timing of the Conference, and decides that the International Conference on Financing for Development shall be held in Monterrey, capital of the state of Nuevo León, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the preparatory process and the Conference with all the support needed, including a secretariat commensurate with the level of the event and adequate staff and other resources, and including the launching of a global public awareness campaign with as much support as possible from public/private partnerships in order to ensure, in collaboration with the authorities of the host country, the successful realization of the Conference and public awareness of its outcome;

5. *Requests* the coordinating secretariat to provide the Preparatory Committee on a regular basis with all relevant information on the progress of the global public awareness campaign;

6. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to continue their active involvement in support of the financing for development preparatory process, including through staff support from the major institutional stakeholders to the financing for development coordinating secretariat, and in this context invites the coordinating secretariat to continue to provide support to the Facilitator, including in the preparation of the concise first draft of the outcome document mandated in resolution 55/245 A, taking into account the substantive interactive dialogue and all other relevant inputs received by the Preparatory Committee within the framework of the substantive agenda;

7. *Requests* that the first draft of the outcome document be submitted to the Preparatory Committee in mid-September 2001 for its consideration at its resumed third session, to be held from 15 to 19 October 2001;

8. *Encourages* Governments, as well as all relevant stakeholders, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the regional development banks and all other relevant

[4] See resolution 55/2.

regional bodies, to continue considering concrete initiatives in support of the financing for development preparatory process and the International Conference on Financing for Development, within the framework of the substantive agenda, including through the organization of expert panels and round tables, and in that regard requests the coordinating secretariat to bring information on such work to the attention of the Preparatory Committee at its resumed third session;

9. *Reaffirms* the importance of continuing to strengthen ways and means to deepen the efforts of all relevant stakeholders, including at the regional level, as well as by civil society and the business sector, in support of the financing for development preparatory process and the Conference, within the framework of the substantive agenda, and in that regard, having considered the report of the task force established by the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee to consider modalities for engaging the business community in the financing for development process:[5]

(*a*) Expresses its satisfaction with the informal discussion with business sector interlocutors on 2 May 2001, and in that context requests the coordinating secretariat, in full consultation with the Bureau, to advise on, assist in and monitor a programme of work developed with the business sector that draws on its perspectives relevant to the substantive agenda items. This programme of work may run from May 2001 until the Conference, and may include workshops, seminars, round tables, forums and other forms of input. The secretariat should bring the outcomes to the attention of the Preparatory Committee;

(*b*) Decides to invite the participation of business sector entities, as follows:

(i) Business sector entities that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council as non-governmental organizations will participate according to the existing rules;

(ii) Business sector entities that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council will be accredited on an ad hoc basis in a similar manner to non-governmental organizations,[6] using the following procedure. They shall provide the name of and information about the company or organization, such as annual reports and a business prospectus, to the coordinating secretariat which shall distribute the names of and information about these entities to members of the Preparatory Committee which will decide accreditation on a non-objection basis;

(*c*) Decides that the modalities for their participation in the Conference shall be finalized when the format of the Conference is decided upon by the Preparatory Committee at its resumed third session;

(*d*) Encourages other initiatives to involve the business sector at national and regional levels and to inform the Preparatory Committee thereof;

10. *Decides* that the format of the Conference should include a high-level official meeting, to be held on 18 March 2002; a segment at the ministerial level, to which delegations shall be invited to send fully integrated delegations, with representatives from all relevant national ministries, to be held on 19 and 20 March 2002; and a segment at the summit level, with the participation of heads of State or Government, to be held on 21 and 22 March 2002;

[5] A/AC.257/22/Add.1.

[6] Resolution 54/279, para. 2 (*e*).

11. *Decides also* that the Conference shall include the participation of States Member of the United Nations, States members of the specialized agencies and observers, in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly;

12. *Decides further* that the Conference shall also include the participation of all relevant stakeholders, including the business sector and civil society;

13. *Requests*, in reference to paragraphs 11 and 12 above, that the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee prepare a proposal for the consideration and decision of the Preparatory Committee, at its resumed third session, on the specific format and rules of procedure of the Conference, as well as possible round tables or other suitable arrangements for the various segments;

14. *Agrees* that the Preparatory Committee, taking into account the dialogue held during its third session, will decide on the nature of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development no later than at its resumed third session in order to guide the Facilitator in the continued intergovernmental negotiations and in the preparation of the draft outcome documents.

109th plenary meeting
25 July 2001